

REMARKS

Claims 4-5, 7, 10-15, 17, 20-26, 32-37, 39, 42-44, 48, 52-53, 57, 61, 63 and 65-75 have been canceled. Claims 6, 8, 16, 16, 18, 38, 40, 45, 49, 54, 58-59, 62 and 64 are currently amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 6, 8, 16, 16, 18, 38, 40, 45, 49, 54, 58-59, 62 and 64 include allowable subject matter. Those claims have been rewritten in independent form to include the features of the claim(s) from which they depended. Therefore, those claims should be in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

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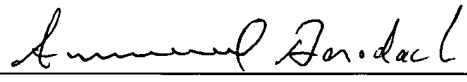
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, all remaining claims are allowable and a notice of allowance should be issued.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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